STATE SENATOR - RAYMOND E. BASHAM - 8TH DISTRICT

Basham Press Release

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For Immediate Release Sen. Ray Basham

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Basham Helps Secure Local School Funding

LANSING- State Senator Ray Basham (D-Taylor) helped win approval today for several legislative measures designed to increase funding for Southeast Michigan school districts. The K-12 budget bill passed by the state Senate today restored full funding for 20j school districts and at-risk programs and included Governor Granholm's recommended \$175 increase in the per pupil foundation allowance.

"We have a responsibility to ensure that every child succeeds in the classroom," said Sen. Basham. "For Michigan to compete in a 21st Century economy, we need to provide each child with the skills to succeed in a modern workforce."

The Senate today restored full funding for 20j school districts and at-risk programs. 20j school districts are schools that receive compensation from the state because they are statutorily prohibited from receiving the full equal foundation allowance. At-risk programs target children who are identified as being at-risk of failing in the classroom.

"I'm pleased that my Senate colleagues ultimately agreed to the Governor's per pupil allowance recommendation," said Basham. "Keeping Michigan an ideal state in which to live, work, or start a business requires a serious commitment to our public education system."